

REMARKS

The Examiner's Office Action of October 20, 2003 has been received and its contents reviewed. Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the consideration given to the above-identified application, and for indicating the allowance of claims 3 and 4.

By the above actions, claims 5-7 have been cancelled. Accordingly, claims 3 and 4 are pending for consideration, of which claims 3 and 4 are independent. In view of these actions and the following remarks, reconsideration of this application is now requested.

Referring now to the detailed Office Action, the specification is objected to as containing informalities. The Examiner contends that the language "dc-blocking first" and "dc-blocking third" in page 25, lines 5 and 12 of the specification should be changed to "first dc-blocking" and "third dc-blocking". However, Applicant respectfully submits that if the amendment is made as suggested by the Examiner, the clarity of the specification would be diminished. The reason for diminishing clarity is that, if the language "first dc-blocking" and "the third dc-blocking" were used, one would expect that there is a second dc-blocking capacitor. Hence, as presently recited in the specification, "dc-blocking first" and "dc-blocking third" correctly describe the first and third capacitor as dc-blocking, and there is no confusion whether there is or not a second dc-blocking capacitor.

The specification is also objected to as the Examiner is of the opinion that all of the reference labels appearing in any particular drawing figures should be correspondingly described in the specification's description of that drawing figure. In response, Applicant has amended the specification, as shown above, to state explicitly that, for the sake of brevity and clarity, similar elements or features in different drawing figures that are referred to by same reference labels may not be repeatedly described for all drawing figures in which they appear.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections to the specification.

The drawing figures 1, 2B, 2C, 3A, 3B, 4, 5B, 5C, 6A, 6B, 9, 10A to 10D, 11A to 11D, 12A to 12D, 13A to 13C, and 14A to 14C stand objected to, as the Examiner is of the opinion that the dielectric elements in the drawings are not properly depicted. In response, Applicant would like to note that the Examiner has suggested using the cross-hatching depicting "section of synthetic resin or plastic" to denote dielectric in the Office Action

mailed June 18, 2003, and in response to the suggestion, Applicant has pointed out in the Amendment After Final filed September 22, 2003 that dielectric is an insulator and could be a material beside synthetic resin or plastic.

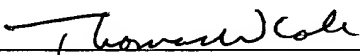
Further, Applicant respectfully submits that MPEP 608.02 states that the symbols (in MPEP pages 600-95 to 600-96) should be used. However, MPEP 608.02 does not state that the symbols must be used. As there are no cross-hatching for denoting a dielectric, Applicant has used the cross-hatching shown in the above-mentioned figures to denote a dielectric. Moreover, to be descriptive and clear, each individual layer and element in the drawing figures are cross-hatched in a manner that clearly defines the differences between the layers and elements. The dielectric layer 3, as shown in Fig. 1, for example, is shown with cross-hatching lines that are clearly differently spaced apart than the cross-hatches shown in other layers. Further, various layers have cross-hatching lines of different inclination.

The Examiner asserts that the single line cross-hatching used in the figures is representative of conductive material. In response, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner to, for example, U.S. Patent 6,545,572 issued to Ohta et al. and examined by the Examiner. The reference to Ohta et al. shows Fig. 5A as using single line cross-hatching to depict dielectric layers 4a, 4b, 7a and 7b. In this Ohta et al. Patent, the Examiner has found it acceptable to use single line cross-hatching to denote a dielectric. Therefore, in view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the objection to the drawings.

Claim 5-7 have been canceled, as shown above. Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application to claim the features of the canceled claim in the future, as necessary.

While the present application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, should the Examiner find some issue to remain unresolved, or should any new issues arise, which could be eliminated through discussions with Applicant's representative, then the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone in order that the further prosecution of this application can thereby be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,



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ATTACHMENT: USP 6,545,572